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# OFFICIAL REPORTS OF SOCIETIES

IN CHARGE OF  
MARY E. THORNTON



## THE CONGRESS OF NURSES

### TRAINED NURSES' DAY AND THE TEMPLE OF MUSIC

THE Director-General of the Pan-American Exposition, Mr. W. C. Buchanan, has written to the chairman of the Buffalo Nurses' Association to say that on Trained Nurses' Day, Saturday, September 21, the Music Temple on the Exposition grounds will be reserved for the use of the nurses from one o'clock to three-thirty P.M.

### A DELEGATE FROM THE UNITED STATES ARMY NURSE CORPS.

Assistant-Surgeon-General W. H. Forwood, Acting Surgeon-General, has informed the Congress Committee that orders will be requested directing the assignment of a representative of the Army Nurse Corps as a delegate to the Congress.

### HOSPITALITY EXTENDED

Mr. J. Ross Robertson, president of the Board of Trustees, Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, whose kindness and hospitality are proverbial, has written to Miss Snively that he will open the reception-room of the *Telegram*, on Bay Street, to our foreign visitors for attending to their correspondence, and for obtaining any information, and that his own secretary will be at their disposal.

### PERSONAL

Miss Isla Stewart and Miss Waind expect to land in New York on September 7 or 8, and will spend a few days with Miss Brennan at Bellevue.

Miss Wood and Miss Hughes arrive on the 14th or 15th, and will stay at the Nurses' Settlement on their way to Buffalo.

### DEFERRED MEETING

The New York State Association will defer its meeting until later in the fall, and due notice will be sent to the journals of the time and place decided upon.

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN OF THE  
UNITED STATES

At a conference of officers of the National Council of Women the following resolutions relating to a *Council Bulletin* were passed:

Moved by Mrs. Sewall and voted unanimously:

"That a *Council Bulletin* be published, and that not less than five numbers be issued before the next triennial.

"That Mrs. Spencer be appointed editor-in-chief of the *Council Bulletin*, with the privilege of employing a Providence printer, and with an Advisory Board to consist of the president, Mrs. Gaffney, Mrs. Cynthia Westover Alden, chairman of the Press Committee of the National Council, Mrs. Ida Husted Harper, chairman of the Press Committee of the International Council, and Mrs. Ellen A. Richardson, cabinet head of the Department of Art and Literature.

"That the committee on publishing the *Council Bulletin* shall be permitted to draw upon the treasury for a sum not exceeding one hundred and fifty dollars for the five numbers, and shall be allowed to use discretion as to the relative amount to be expended for the first issue, and that each issue shall consist of at least fifteen hundred copies."

The letter which was sent to the officers of the American Federation of Nurses (comprising the Superintendents' Society and the Associated Alumnae) relating to this proposed publication said:

"As appropriations from the council treasury for new work require the consent of the executive, and as the *Bulletin*, to be of use, must be issued in at least two numbers before the next meeting at Buffalo, the consent of the presidents of organizations within the council is asked by the officers for this action. Also, as each *Bulletin* will contain the names of all our affiliated bodies, with that of one officer with address, and may also give a line to each one (not to exceed ten words) stating object and numbers, and may if desired contain also date and place of the next meeting of that organization, it is certain that the benefit to each organization will entitle the officers not only to consent to the measure, but also to aid in making the expense to the council treasury as light as possible. The one hundred and fifty dollars voted is in the nature of a guarantee, and we hope will not have to be drawn upon. Already one hundred subscriptions for five numbers of the *Bulletin* at twenty-five cents for the series have been received, and the appended questions are sent to you in the hope that your reply will be a pledge of aid as well as a consent to what is proposed."

The first question was: "Do you consent to the issuing of *Council Bulletin* in accordance with enclosed resolutions?"

The second: "Will you subscribe for copies for your organization?"

The third: "If so, how many?"

To the above questions the secretary of the federation answered in the affirmative, giving the consent of the federation to the publication of the *Bulletin*. The second and third questions were not answered, as they must be decided at the business meetings of our associations.

The National Council of Women will meet in Buffalo on September 13, and the American Federation of Nurses is entitled to two delegates. The Executive Committee has asked Miss Keating from the superintendents, and Miss Sophia Palmer from the alumnæ, and they have consented to serve.

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#### NEW ENGLAND HOSPITAL ALUMNÆ

THE annual meeting of the New England Hospital Training-School Alumnæ Association was held at the Nurses' Home on May 29. The following officers were elected:

Honorary president, Miss Linda Richards.

President, Miss Drusilla Hodgins.

First vice-president, Miss Louise Furber.

Second vice-president, Miss M. B. McIntosh.

Third vice-president, Miss Maren Wahl.

Treasurer, Mrs. Emma Wilson Smith.

Secretary, Miss A. Dillet.

Assistant secretary, Mrs. Louise B. Verette.

Advisory member, Miss A. C. Jaume.

Chairman of registry, Miss A. C. Jaume.

Registry Committee—Miss Sarah Beatty, Miss Dillet.

It was unanimously voted that "thanks be sent to Miss C. D. Noyes (ex-superintendent of nurses) for her hearty coöperation in the organization of the association and the registry, and her services as advisory member and chairman of the registry and registrar. We do hereby show our appreciation."

Letters from absent members endorse the above sentiments.

After the graduating exercises the Class of 1901 were entertained by the alumnæ. As the weather was too rainy to hold the usual festivities on the hospital grounds, the doors of the spacious corridors where the nurses are located in the new surgical building were thrown open, and Japanese lanterns were suspended from the ceiling to brighten the gloom of the afternoon. A room was decorated with flags, etc., in which tables were laid and supper was served between six and eight. The staff and house officers were present, and all enjoyed a pleasant evening.

**THE SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR NURSES**

THE 1901 meeting of the Spanish-American War Nurses will be held in Buffalo, New York, September 16 and 17, immediately preceding the International Congress of Nurses. The change from Washington to Buffalo as the place of meeting has been decided on by the officers at the request of many members and with the approval of all whose opinions could be obtained.

The complete programme will be mailed to members soon, and those who have lately changed addresses are requested to notify the corresponding secretary and treasurer, Mrs. H. C. Lounsbery, 493 Quarrier Street, Charleston-on-Kanawha, West Virginia.

ANITA NEWCOMBE MCGEE,  
President S.-A. W. N.

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**BROOKLYN MEMORIAL HOSPITAL ALUMNÆ**

AT the annual meeting of the Alumnæ Association of the Memorial Hospital Training-School, Brooklyn, New York, the following officers were elected:

President, Miss M. J. Parry.

Vice-president, Miss V. Parbury.

Secretary-treasurer, Miss Clara Richard.

Miss M. M. Wallace, supervisor of nurses, was made honorary member of the society.

A committee was appointed to raise funds to furnish a room in the hospital, which will be known as the Alumnæ Room.

A letter was read from Miss Botch, who is at present in Trinidad, Cuba, organizing a training-school for nurses.

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**PHILADELPHIA WOMAN'S HOSPITAL ALUMNÆ**

THE Nurse Alumnæ Association of the Woman's Hospital, Philadelphia, gave a "birthday party and tea" at 1515 Westmoreland Street on May 15 for the benefit of the "graduate nurse bed," the proceeds of which are three hundred and one dollars and seventy-three cents.

At the commencement of the Training-School in December last the alumnæ representative presented to the hospital one thousand dollars, this being the first payment on the three thousand five hundred dollars required to endow a bed and furnish a room. The graduate nurses are now entitled to the use of a bed for three months in the year.

It is intended to give an illustrated lecture on "Summer Wanderings in Europe" in the fall.

A special meeting of this association was called on Tuesday, June 25, at the home of the president, 1515 Westmoreland Street, at which Miss Anna M. Peters was elected a delegate to the International Congress of Nurses to be held at Buffalo. The Misses Lillian L. Allen, Margaret McEwen, and Margaret L. White were elected alternates.

At the final account the proceeds of the "birthday party" were shown to be three hundred and twenty-six dollars and thirteen cents.

Seven names were proposed for membership.

After considering other business, adjourned to meet at 1227 Arch Street, September 11, 1901.

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#### LONG ISLAND COLLEGE ALUMNÆ, BROOKLYN

A EUCHRE PARTY was held for the benefit of this alumnæ on Wednesday, June 5, at "The Arlington." There was a large gathering of friends and a reunion of many of the members who had not met for a number of years, and a most enjoyable evening was passed.

After refreshments were served a number of very handsome prizes were awarded the successful players, several of which were the gift of Miss Milhan, a kind friend of the nurses, and they wish to tender her their thanks for her interest and help. They also wish to thank Miss Haines and the Entertainment Committee for their earnest efforts in making the euchre party a success, as the treasurer reports an addition in the treasury of over one hundred dollars.

The annual outing of this association was held in Prospect Park on June 13, the members meeting at the Park Plaza at three P.M. As the day was perfect, the park never looked more inviting, the refreshing green of the trees and shrubbery contrasting so beautifully with the bright and varied coloring of flowers of every description, from the simplest to the most highly cultivated, and as one of the nurses expressed it, "The park is indeed a fairyland of beauty at this season of the year."

We regretted very much the absence of our president, Mrs. Twing, and a number of the nurses, who found it impossible to enjoy the outing with us.

After a pleasant social chat Miss Sutcliffe announced that the time had arrived to have lunch served, so at once the tempting feast was spread under one of the fine old shade-trees, and it need not be said that the members were in excellent condition to do justice to the generous supply of viands.

The party then took a stroll to the different points of interest in the park, visiting the "Vale of Cashmere," and as we viewed it from the rustic bridge the sight was enchanting. We then saw the "Rose Garden." The beauty and fragrance of these choicest of roses we shall not soon forget. We also visited the "Italian Garden," with its large collection of tropical and home plants, and as we descended the stairs, either side of which is carpeted with variegated flowers to form the design, we could not but marvel at the perfection to which artistic gardening had come.

As the day came to a close we all felt benefited and refreshed by our pleasant reunion, and no doubt each one of us will long remember the happy day spent together.

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THE Brooklyn Homœopathic Alumnæ send greetings, more particularly to our sister nurses from abroad who are visiting us this summer.

Our alumnæ was formed five years ago, and although we have accomplished some good work in the past, having had drills in parliamentary law, lectures in bacteriology, etc., we think that during the present year we have accomplished our most efficient work. The city having bought our hospital for the purpose of making it a charity hospital, our "alumnæ" asked permission of the "Memorial Homœopathic Hospital of Brooklyn" to furnish a room for our sick members. Permission was granted, and a committee of four was appointed, Miss Potter, Miss Park, Miss Fanning, and Miss Griswold. The room is comfortably and prettily furnished, having cost the members one hundred and forty-four dollars. Two of the nurses donated books and a third a scrap-basket. We are so much encouraged with our small beginning that we hope in the not distant future we shall be able to raise among our "alumnæ" members one thousand dollars and endow the room.

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THE graduates of the Cooper Hospital, Camden, New Jersey, met on Wednesday, June 12, for the purpose of organizing an Alumnæ Association. It was decided to hold quarterly meetings on the first Monday in January, April, July, and October at the hospital.

Officers elected:

President, Miss Ella Michaels.

First vice-president, Miss Effa Fahringer.

Second vice-president, Miss Nellie Hankins.

Secretary, Miss Irene B. Myers.

Treasurer, Miss Mary E. Rockhill.

ON Friday afternoon, June 14, at Camden, New Jersey, an Alumnae Association was organized by the graduates of the West Jersey Institute for Training Nurses, assisted by the faculty and Nurse Committee of the West Jersey Homœopathic Hospital for Women and Children.

A constitution and set of by-laws were adopted, and the following officers were elected:

President, Mrs. Elizabeth K. Lawrence.

Vice-president, Miss Elizabeth Webb.

Secretary, Miss Mary A. Craig.

Treasurer, Miss Jennie B. Fix.

Executive Committee—Misses Lida M. Foster, Alice M. Greer, and Mary F. Parker.

The class secretaries appointed were Mrs. Emma J. Morgan, 1896; Misses Mary A. Craig, 1897; Jennie B. Fix, 1898; Alice M. Greer, 1900; Edythe E. Dunlap, 1901. Miss Mary F. Parker was appointed necrologist, and Miss Adeline W. Robson was elected an honorary member.

After a vote of thanks to the faculty and Nurse Committee for their assistance and to the Board of Managers for their entertainment, the meeting adjourned.

A dainty tea was served by the Board of Managers.

In the evening the fifth annual commencement exercises of the Training-School were held in the First Methodist Episcopal Church, at which the Rev. George B. Wight delivered an excellent address.

Dr. Wallace McGeorge, secretary of the Training-School, presented diplomas and conferred the degree of medical and surgical nurse upon the following graduates: Misses Edythe Estelle Dunlap and Mary Frances Parker.

Class pins were presented by the head nurse, Miss Adeline W. Robson, with fitting remarks.

Flowers and gifts were in profusion, and music was interspersed throughout the programme.

After the exercises a reception to the graduates was held in the hospital parlor, which was tastefully decorated with flags, flowers, and the school colors.

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THE Press Committee of the Nurses' Congress has written to all the societies and Nurses' Clubs asking for short histories of the associations with biographies of delegates.

Such societies are also requested to send copies of reports, journals, constitutions, and any other printed matter to the collection of nurses' writings. Address Miss Damer, 55 Mohawk Street, Buffalo.



At a special meeting of the Executive Committee of the Alumnae of the Training-School of the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, held June 13, 1901, the following resolutions were adopted:

"WHEREAS, It has pleased our Heavenly Father to remove from our midst Miss Harriet H. Fetherman, an esteemed member of our association; therefore

"Resolved, That in her death our association has lost a highly esteemed and much loved member, and the nursing profession a faithful worker.

"Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be extended with our deepest sympathy to her family, that a second copy be sent to THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NURSING, and that a record be made of the same in the minutes of this meeting.

"E. RAMSDEN,

"M. G. FAY,

"N. M. CASEY,

"Committee."

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#### VISITING NURSING IN NEW YORK \*

BY MRS. MERLE CARHART

Post-Graduate Hospital Training-School, New York

WITHIN the past three or four years there seems to have sprung up a considerable demand for the services of trained nurses to perform what has been called visiting or hourly nursing. It often happens that it is neither necessary nor desirable in certain cases for the patient to have the continuous presence of the trained nurse during the entire twenty-four hours of the day. In some families, even among the wealthy, an additional member of the household in a time of sickness is an inconvenience to be avoided, unless absolutely essential for the safety of the patient. If a visiting nurse can be procured to do those things which only a trained nurse can properly perform, maids and relatives can be depended upon to attend to the ordinary needs of the sick person. Of course, it is only a limited class of cases to which visiting nursing is applicable. We all recognize the fact that acute diseases of a serious nature should have the continuous care of a trained nurse to carry out the treatment of the medical attendant. In many medical cases, however, especially in those of a semi-acute or chronic course, the visiting nurse can attend to the daily bath, apply massage or electricity, give enemata, douches, or irrigation, see that medicines are properly taken; in fact, she can in an hour or two "do up" the invalid for the day, so that her absence at other times is not detrimental. She should usually arrange her visit so as to be present, for obvious reasons, when the doctor calls.

\* Read at the Third Annual Convention of the Associated Alumnae.

In some surgical cases, also, the presence of the nurse at operations, when surgical dressings are made, or when special treatment is adopted may be all that is essential, provided additional care is possible from members of the family or friends.

For people living in boarding-houses and small apartments visiting nursing is eminently desirable, since there is often absolutely no place for a nurse to sleep. In addition, the comparative economy of visiting nursing is a factor of importance with people of small means, who might not otherwise be able to procure a trained nurse at all.

The need for visiting nursing and its success have some analogy to the need for and success of district and settlement work, about which we have been hearing.

The fact of visiting nursing in New York has not yet become well known among the laity, nor are its advantages appreciated by the medical profession. Both the laity and the doctors seem to recognize the need for hourly nursing when the idea is presented to them, but it has been the experience of the writer of this article that devotion to visiting nursing is often interfered with by demands for regular, continuous nursing. One doctor who gave great encouragement to the writer to devote herself to hourly nursing was quite indignant at her refusal to take a regular case, and never called her again for either regular or hourly work. In preparing this article the writer has corresponded with the few nurses whom she has found to be doing visiting nursing, and will now quote from some of the letters received.

Miss Mary L. Pring writes: "When I began, about a year ago, I visited many of the doctors, and although they all professed to be interested in hourly nursing and glad to hear there was such a nurse to call upon, in almost every case I never heard from them afterwards. Neither the doctors nor the laity seem to have gotten used to the idea yet, although I believe it will come with time." Miss Pring's experience was limited to a very few cases.

Miss Martha L. Janes thinks that "the subject does need to be brought more before the public. Even doctors who have had the matter brought to their notice forget about it. A patient of mine to whom I was recently speaking of hourly nursing said: 'Why, surely my doctor could not have known about this. That would have just suited my case two years ago, when I could not have a trained nurse all the time.'"

Mrs. Lester Wilson, a New York Hospital nurse, is one who has already made a success of visiting nursing, and she has sent the following contribution, which will be quoted in full, although covering some points already touched upon:

"I think that there is a great call for hourly nurses in a city or

village or any place. I have found that in a great many cases people do not require to have a nurse all the time, and a great many other people cannot afford to hire a nurse all the time, and that a nurse can go in, and in an hour or two can accomplish as much as a nurse who is there all the time, as far as actual care is concerned. Wealthy people do not care so much for the expense, but they do not want a nurse around all the time. They have maids in the house who can wait on them and do everything but the one thing that they call the nurse for, which is something that a maid would not be capable of doing.

"The training for hourly nursing should be the best. Just any nurse cannot satisfy people, by any means. Why people do not have a higher opinion of hourly nursing than they do is because some nurse who is too old or too tired, or for some reason or other has not succeeded very well at private nursing, has taken up hourly nursing. If really first-class nurses would go into it, they could make as much money as they do at private nursing, and would get a great deal more fresh air and exercise than they do now. I think it is a great deal pleasanter than private nursing. I certainly never did private nursing because I thought it was pleasant, but because I could not afford to do institutional work.

"I have so many nurses who come to me and say, 'I come to you because I know you have made a success of hourly nursing, and I want your opinion as to whether I had better take it up.' And then I ask them why they want to take it up, and nine times out of ten I find that it is because they have not made a success of private nursing; and I advise most of them not to go into it, because they are not fond enough of hard work. Anyone who is going into hourly nursing to make a success of it ought to just love hard work, and dirty work too. The trouble with a great many nurses is that they are so fond of sitting around with their hands folded.

"To make hourly nursing pay, too, a nurse ought to have a good deal of executive ability in order to plan her day and get it all to come out right.

"The charge for the work ought to be regulated according to the patient's ability to pay, just as a doctor regulates his charges. People who can afford to pay four dollars a day and the board of a nurse are quite willing to pay two dollars for a visit from a nurse if in an hour she gives them a bath or an irrigation, or does a surgical dressing and gets them straightened out for the day. I do not remember that I have ever had anyone object to the price that I charged them for hourly nursing."

Mrs. Lester Wilson has expressed herself very forcibly, and her ideas regarding the work are decidedly original.

In order to make a success of visiting nursing in New York, where

the idea has not yet been fully developed, registration in some nurses' registry seems essential, and perhaps it may be necessary occasionally to take regular cases for continuous work also, until a sufficient clientèle of hourly nursing is obtained. But in general the two kinds of work are conflicting, since one long case of continuous nursing puts a nurse out of touch with her other patients and makes her unavailable when called upon for hourly nursing.

From a financial stand-point visiting nursing is at least as remunerative as regular nursing if a good clientèle is obtained. The writer has at times made considerably more than four dollars per day. Of course, occasionally cases were few and receipts limited, but an average of three or four patients a day should support a nurse nicely, with the advantages of considerable leisure during the day and regular sleep at night.

As to rates, the writer considers one dollar for the first hour and twenty-five cents for the ensuing hours are probably all that people of limited means, constituting so large a proportion of the patients in hourly nursing, can afford to pay. Perhaps the second hour should usually be fifty cents, as suggested by Miss Martha L. Janes, with whose ideas in the following quotation the writer agrees in the main. She says:

"Our registry at first voted to have the rates for hourly nursing one dollar for the first hour and twenty-five cents for each ensuing hour till the usual price per day was reached.

"After my second case I was fully persuaded that the price for ensuing hours should be fifty cents instead of twenty-five cents. In the majority of cases the extra twenty-five cents is so little that the nurse will be kept that length of time,—I mean for two hours, anyway,—and by the time car-fare is paid almost nothing remains for the hour's work, and very likely a good part of another hour will be consumed in getting to the next patient or to one's room."

In conclusion, the writer thinks that visiting nursing has a future of success before it, and that it has many advantages both for patient and nurse.

The advantages for the patient have been sufficiently dwelt upon. For the nurse it gives varied and interesting work, in many ways pleasanter than regular continuous nursing; it furnishes fresh air and exercise, and is therefore healthier than confined work in private nursing; it insures sleep at night and regular habits, and is therefore more comfortable as well as healthier; and, lastly, it is with a good clientèle fully as remunerative as regular nursing, besides giving greater freedom of action and mode of life. As its advantages are better known it is sure to be taken up more and more by successful nurses.